

**Issue:
INSTALLATION
AND
MANAGEMENT**

Communities suffer from improperly planted and neglected trees. Properly planted and maintained trees are crucial to achieve maximum social, economic and environmental benefits. Proper urban forestry management practices lead to viable, sustainable and livable urban environments.



**Recommended
Actions:**

- Conduct workshop and/or series on tree production with a target audience of the nursery industry.
- Develop and produce two types of tags (balled and burlapped, and containerized) for nursery stock that explain how to plant and care for the tree.
- Produce a brochure on tree maintenance that will be distributed to the purchaser at the time of tree sale.
- Develop an adult educational program similar to Tree Stewards, Forest Keepers or Tree Keepers.
- Promote education of municipal employees and commercial landscapers.

**Recommended
Actions:**

- Develop and deliver educational programs and materials to all stakeholders to encourage the concepts of sustainable communities, low-impact developments, and smart growth.
- Develop a “green” recognition program for outstanding development projects in both the public and private sector.
- Assist communities in developing reasonable planning and zoning ordinances and/or regulations that sustain and enhance the urban forest.
- Partner with communities in developing or updating their comprehensive plans.

**Issue:
URBAN
EXPANSION**

As urban areas expand into natural areas, unique problems arise. Natural systems are not given due consideration during the planning stage, and restoration efforts after development are often inadequate.

**Issue:
COMMUNITY
FORESTRY
PROGRAM
DEVELOPMENT**

Many communities lack a comprehensive, proactive urban forestry management program. They often have insufficient political support, funding, and professional expertise to establish, sustain and grow an effective program.



**Recommended
Actions:**

- Provide funding for initial program development that encourages future self-sufficiency.
- Support tree boards with networking resources and leadership training.
- Assist communities in obtaining the necessary urban forestry tools, such as inventories, ordinances, municipal plans, computer software and hardware, etc.

**Recommended
Actions:**

- At the state level, provide urban forestry training for arborists, city employees, utilities, and others (i.e., Department of Transportation).
- At the community level, have professionals available to stimulate interest, carry out training and outreach efforts, participate in urban forestry grant applications and program management assistance.
- Support and promote available certification programs.
- Promote urban forestry and arboriculture curriculum in institutions of higher learning.

**Issue:
TECHNICAL
EXPERTISE**

There is a lack of public and private professional horticultural expertise in urban forestry. Kentucky needs more certified arborists, trained management, skilled employees, funding, interest and awareness.



Recommended Actions:

- Develop a marketing strategy using mass media to promote the benefits of urban forestry.
- Create and maintain a multi-media resource base for urban forestry information and contacts.
- Incorporate comprehensive urban forestry information into web sites.
- Produce an annual urban forestry conference.
- Promote Arbor Day and Tree City USA programs throughout the state.

**Issue:
PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE**

There is a lack of public and private awareness and appreciation of the values of urban trees.

Dissemination of the information is needed on the economic, social and environmental benefits that urban trees provide.



The Kentucky Urban and Community Forestry Council serves as an advisory board to the Division of Forestry on urban forestry issues. The Council, in cooperation with the division, has produced this strategic plan to provide the urban forestry program focus and direction. This plan will also determine the distribution of grant monies, provide urban and community forestry information to communities and organizations across the state, as well as, provide the overall direction for division program activities.



Photo courtesy of Jim Rebmann, Senior Environmental Planner, LFUCG.

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Planning for a Greener Kentucky



Kentucky Urban and Community Forestry Council

**Issue:
SELECTION OF TREES**

Kentucky communities, citizens and businesses need to plan and select tree species appropriate for the urban environment. Properly selected and located trees should thrive, minimize risk, and function for the benefit of our communities.



Recommended Actions:

- Develop new and utilize existing materials that will assist in the planning process and result in the selection of trees best suited for the planting site.
- Encourage the public, landscape industry and municipalities to utilize a diverse variety of proper tree species in urban plantings.
- Support and promote the national standards for nursery stock that are produced by the American National Standards Institute. Develop a working relationship with the Kentucky Nursery and Landscape Association.